

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, or claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for treating an animal against a bacterium induced disease comprising the step of inhibiting DNA methyltransferase activity in said ~~microbe~~ bacterium, wherein said disease is caused by *Brucella* species, *Agrobacterium* species, *Rhizobium* species, or *Helicobacter* species.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said DNA methyltransferase is a DNA adenine methyl transferase.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said inhibiting DNA methyltransferase activity results from inhibiting DNA methyltransferase enzyme activity.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said animal is a human patient.

6-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a mammal afflicted with a bacterium induced disease, comprising administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective dose of a methyl transferase inhibitor, wherein said disease is caused by *Brucella* species, *Agrobacterium* species, *Rhizobium* species, or *Helicobacter* species.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said DNA methyltransferase is a DNA adenine methyl transferase.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said inhibiting DNA methyltransferase activity results from inhibiting DNA methyltransferase enzyme activity.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said animal is a human patient.

17-40. (Cancelled)

41. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a bacterium-induced condition in a mammal afflicted with said condition, comprising administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective dose of a composition comprising a methyl transferase inhibitor and a pharmacological excipient, wherein said condition is caused by Brucella species, Agrobacterium species, Rhizobium species, or Helicobacter species.

42-43. (Cancelled)

44. (Original) The method of claim 41 wherein said mammal is a human.